Name: Morgan Olson

***Article: Alicia Keys First to Put Album for Free on Facebook***

Web Link: <http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=news/entertainment&id=7158692>

Article Date: Monday December 7th, 2009

Article Number: 1

If you went back about 50 years and told anyone- student, teacher, retired person- that if they were alive in 50 years that they would have the ability to go online and talk to people on a website called Facebook, they probably wouldn’t believe you. In the article I found, Alicia Keys released her upcoming album on her “Fan Page” on Facebook so that her fans can listen to it ahead of time. You cannot download the album, but you can listen to it as much as you want to. It was released on Facebook on December 7, 2009. The actual album will be released on December 15, 2009. Even though you can only listen to the album instead of purchasing it, she believes- along with many other people- that it will make her album more popular so more people will buy it.

I learned that you can release an album on Facebook. I knew that you can talk to other people on Facebook and even play some games, but I never knew you can listen to music. I don’t think it is necessary to release an album on Facebook. Just because people listen to it, doesn’t mean they will go out and buy the C.D. Also, some people might even be against releasing albums on Facebook. It is kind of like the newest iPod nano. Everybody tries to keep improving the iPod- whether it’s adding a video camera or adding more apps. It’s the same thing with Facebook. Facebook started out as something called “Facemash” and was created by a sophomore at Harvard. All it was, was comparing pictures of people. Now, you can talk to other people, upload pictures, and even play games, such as “Farmville.”

One question I still have after reading is how can people not be able to copy the music? I think that there is probably some way where you can go and figure out how to copy the music.

This relates to one of the topics I was interested in- Media in the society. If you went back 50 years, and told them what Facebook is, they would probably be shocked at how much technology can and has improved. It shows that media can affect the society every day.

Name: Morgan Olson

***Article: Feds Indict 26 in Alleged Scheme to Defraud FCC Program for the Deaf***

Web Link: <http://www.cnn.com/2009/CRIME/11/19/deaf.fraud.indictments/index.html?iref=allsearch>

Article Date: November 19, 2009

Article Number: 2

Recently, the FCC (Federal Communications Commission) found out that 26 people from nine different states were involved in a crime involving a program for the deaf. The program is meant to help the deaf and hard of hearing Americans communicate with hearing people in America. The people involved are thought to have stolen “tens of millions of dollars” from the program. These people are from New York, New Jersey, Florida, Texas, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Arizona, Nevada, and Maryland. They found out a way to make it look like deaf Americans were using many minutes for calling, while those minutes had never been used. To investigate, federal agents had to rely on 20 sign language interpreters to help them find out information.

I thought that it was interesting how people could want to steal money from a program doing positive things. I don’t understand how people can do that. I also thought it was interesting how they needed to use 20 sign language interpreters to find out more information from the deaf and hard of hearing. One thing that I learned was that some money that Americans pay for their telephone bill goes to this program. I didn’t realize that before.

One question I still have after reading is how the FCC found out about this happening. Did they find out on their own, or did other people help them to realize it?

This article relates to my topic because it is about deaf culture and communication with hearing people. It relates to my group’s general topic because it is also about social issues. It has to do with crimes and technology, also.